

CAL FED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM

Title Page

Proposal Title: Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed Management and Action Plan
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Amount of funding requested: \$ 848,000 for 3 years.

Indicated the Topic for which you are applying (check only one box).

| | | |
|----|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Fish Passage/Fish Screens | Introduced Species |
| | Habitat Restoration | Fish Management/Hatchery |
| XX | Local Watershed Stewardship | Environmental Education |
| | Water Quality | |

Does the proposal address a specified Focused Action? XX Yes No

What county or counties is the project located in? Fresno and San Benito

Indicate the geographic area of your proposal (check only one box):

| | |
|--|--|
| Sacramento River Mainstream | East Side Trib: <u> </u> |
| Sacramento Trib: <u> </u> | Suisun Marsh and Bay |
| San Joaquin River Mainstream | North Bay/South Bay: <u> </u> |
| XX San Joaquin Trib: <u>Panoche Creek</u> | Landscape (entire Bay-Delta watershed) |
| Delta: <u> </u> | Other: <u> </u> |

Indicate the primary species which the proposal addresses (check all that apply):

| | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| San Joaquin and East-side Delta tributaries | fall-run chinook salmon |
| Winter-run chinook salmon | Spring-run chinook salmon |
| Late fall-run chinook salmon | Fall-run chinook salmon |
| Delta smelt | Longfin smelt |
| Splittail | Steelhead trout |
| Green sturgeon | XX Striped bass |
| XX Migratory birds | XX All chinook species |
| XX Other: <u>river/delta/bay food chain</u> | XX All anadromous salmonids |

Specify the ERP strategic objectives and target(s) that the project addresses. Include page numbers from January 1999 version of ERP Volume I and II:

Strategic Plan Goal 5, Objective 6¹, page 478, the Target is Stage 1 Expectations, page 479.
 Strategic Plan Goal 6, Objective 1¹, page 506, the second Strategic Plan Goal 6, Objective 2¹, the third Strategic Plan Goal 6, Objective 3¹, page 507. The target is Stage 1 Expectations, page 508.

Indicate the type of applicant (check only one box):

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| State agency | Federal agency |
| Public/Non-profit joint venture | Non-profit |
| Local government/district | Private party |
| University | XX Other: Special District |

Indicate the type of project (check only one box):

| | |
|-------------|----------------|
| XX Planning | Implementation |
| Monitoring | Education |
| Research | |

By signing below, the applicant declares the following:

- 1.) The truthfulness of all representations in their proposal;
- 2.) The individual signing the form is entitled to submit the application on behalf of the applicant (if the applicant is an entity or organization); and
- 3.) The person submitting the application has read and understood the conflict of interest and confidentiality of the proposal on behalf of the applicant, to the extent as provided in the Section.

Haris A. Moin
Printed name of the applicant

Haris A. Moin
Signature of the applicant

The Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed Management and Action Plan

Applicant:

Morris A. Martin, Manager
Westside Resource Conservation District
3763 E. Robinson
Fresno, CA 93726
redmartin@psnw.com

Type of Organization and Tax Status:

Resource Conservation District
IRS Revenue Code Sect. 115T170C: Tax Exempt

Participants and Collaborators:

Westside Resource Conservation District (Contracting Party)
Panoche/Silver Creek CRMP
Ranchers in the upper Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed
Farmers in the lower Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed
Residents and officials from the City of Mendota, California
Fresno County Board of Supervisors
Fresno County Public Works Department
San Benito County Board of Supervisors
San Benito County Public Works Department
Silver Creek Drainage District
Broadview Water District
Firebaugh Canal Water District
Westlands Water District
California State University, Fresno
California Department of Water Resources
California Department of Transportation
United States Bureau of Land Management
United States Bureau of Reclamation
United States Environmental Protection Agency
McCulley, Frick & Gilman, Inc.
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Executive Summary

Bioaccumulated toxic contaminants, such as selenium, in water and sediment can impair ecosystem function in the San Joaquin River, the Delta, and the San Francisco Bay ecosystems. Westside San Joaquin tributaries, primarily the Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed (PSCW), are known to convey substantial amounts of contaminants, including selenium, sediment, and salts to these ecosystems.

The Westside Resource Conservation District (WRCD) and the Panoche/Silver Creek Coordinated Resource Management and Planning Group (CRMP) recognize that better upper watershed management can improve habitat and water quality downstream and while yielding other secondary benefits as well. The following proposed project will build upon the successfully completed PSCW Assessment. This proposed project will be implemented through the CRMP process and will involve integrating information developed in the proposed project with information from other recent and concurrent projects. This integration of information will evolve the *Panoche/Silver Creek Coordinated Resource Management Plan into a blueprint for implementation of adaptive management programs in the watershed.*

Project activities will include continued coordination of CRMP member agencies, private interests, and watershed landowners. The project will involve detailed technical evaluation of BMPs recommended in the PSCW Assessment for the management of erosion and reduction of the sediment and contaminant load delivered from the upper watershed during high flow events. BMPs will be evaluated for cost, feasibility, siting, and effectiveness. Conceptual designs will be developed and selected BMPs will be installed at test sites throughout the upper watershed. Some BMPs will not be tested in the field, such as upper watershed flow retention structures; however, engineering evaluations through model simulations will be performed to investigate their feasibility and effectiveness.

Integral to this project, is the three-year monitoring program which will be developed to assess the effectiveness of field-tested BMPs for achieving the goals of reducing sediment and contaminant loads leaving the watershed while measuring indicators of secondary ecological benefits as well. The monitoring portion of the project will dovetail with a project proposed by the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory regarding real-time forecasting of contaminant loading from the PSCW to the San Joaquin River. The project will include a detailed evaluation of monitoring data.

The results of BMP testing will be integrated with the results of other recent and concurrent projects, including the Bureau of Reclamation's Panoche Creek Corridor project, the Bureau of Land Management's Panoche Creek Non-native plant management program, and the CRMP's coordination with the California Department of Fish and Game and landowners to develop a creek maintenance permit on Panoche Creek from the I-5 bridge and Belmont Avenue. The CRMP will use this compiled information to develop a Watershed "Action Plan" for the established Coordinated Resource and Management Plan that will provide working, flexible guidance and conceptual designs to plan and implement future watershed management actions.

Project Description

Proposed Scope of Work

The Westside Resource Conservation District (WRCD) and the Panoche/Silver Creek Coordinated Resource Management and Planning Group (CRMP) have developed the following proposed project to build upon the successfully completed Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed (PSCW) Assessment. The WRCD is requesting \$848,000 in CALFED ecosystem restoration funding, over a three-year period, to evaluate recommended Best Management Practices (BMPs), implement selected BMPs on feasible test sites throughout the upper watershed, and carefully monitor the test sites and the watershed at large to determine the effectiveness of BMPs for reducing loads of sediment, selenium, and other contaminants delivered from the PSCW during high flow events. We will implement this project through the CRMP process, and will use the information collected during this and other recent and concurrent projects to develop the Action Plan component of the Panoche/Silver Creek (P/SC) Coordinated Resource Management Plan. The six tasks which comprise the proposed work are summarized below. Task 1, project management, will occur throughout the duration of the project, and Tasks 2 through 6 will generally be initiated sequentially, with the start of a later task contingent on funding and adequate progress on the preceding task(s).

TASK 1: *Project Management* - Overall project management will be the responsibility of the CRMP coordinator, Nettie Drake, with direction from the manager of the Westside RCD, Morris Martin, and the CRMP steering committee. Technical aspects of the project will be managed under contract by McCulley, Frick & Gilman, Inc (MFG). This task will be required continuously for the three-year duration of the project. The CRMP coordinator will continue to implement actions to involve stakeholders (including public agencies, private entities, and the general public with interests in the watershed) in regular CRMP meetings. Continued coordination by the CRMP will encourage a maximum integration of the multiple projects being conducted in the watershed. The CRMP coordinator, with technical assistance from member agencies and MFG will conduct public education workshops to promote understanding of linkages between land use, ecosystem function, and beneficial uses. These programs will relay the findings of the technical work being conducted in the watershed to the people living and working in the watershed, who will be most integral in the success of long-term BMP implementation. These education programs will coincide with opportunities for community involvement in BMP test plot implementation and monitoring aspects of this project. The CRMP coordinator, with the technical assistance of member agencies and MFG, will prepare Quarterly Reports and one annual Project Presentation to CALFED, along with a similar project presentation to at least one regional watershed management conference to promote watershed stewardship in the San Joaquin Valley.

TASK 2: *Program Startup* - Under the direction of the CRMP - Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), MFG will be responsible for initial startup work which will include: data review and compilation; development of land ownership, land use, and watershed characterization maps in Geographic Information System (GIS) coverage; and additional analyses of the major sediment and

selenium source areas. The following activities are anticipated for this task: (1) review of lower watershed sediment and selenium source management evaluation conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) in late 1998; (2) review of USGS selenium concentration data for Panoche Creek from the I-5 gaging station; (3) review of selenium source characterization information developed for the PSCW and surrounding areas; (4) compilation of land ownership and land use information for the PSCW, and development of GIS coverages; (5) documentation of previously attempted watershed improvement implementation projects; and (6) focused additional characterization of sediment and potential selenium sources in critical areas which were only preliminarily identified in the PSCW Assessment work. This task will be completed in the first three months of the project.

TASK 3: BMP Setup - MFG will conduct detailed BMP evaluation which will include actual field test implementation of installed BMPs. The 1998 PSCW Assessment identified several potential BMP applications including the following: establishment of upland native vegetation, riparian area revegetation, tamarisk eradication, fencing exclusions, contouring, road improvement, re-evaluation of required dry mulch (RDM) level, rotational grazing, stewardship allotments, managed riparian pastures, small flow retention structures, and embankment stability enhancements. Preliminary modeling related to the 1998 Assessment indicated that selected BMPs could reduce upland sediment contributions to stream channels and/or reduce peak flood flows in Panoche Creek (MFG/WLA, 1998). The objective for this portion of the project is to define the potential BMPs in a manner sufficient to facilitate implementation for watershed resource managers, including agency personnel and landowners. Descriptions will be brought forward from the PSCW Assessment Final Report, and conceptual designs developed for each BMP based on work done in other watersheds by landowners or the NRCS, as well as standard engineering practices for design and implementation of the BMPs.

Test areas for field evaluation of BMPs will be selected based on land ownership, land use, and watershed characterization maps developed in GIS. Concurrence with landowners will be required prior to preliminary site data collection and planning for installation. Local landowner support has been demonstrated for this phase of work. Existing sites where revegetation, fencing, or tamarisk eradication have been implemented already will be utilized and, as possible, test areas will be located where accessibility is not limited. Several strategic locations for embankment stability enhancements will be identified and limited installations (for short stream reaches) made to provide data on durability and performance to reduce embankment scour during flood events. Selection of sites for testing embankment stability will be carefully made to minimize any potential for exacerbation of existing erosion potential in downstream areas as the result of the enhancements which would be installed. Specific potential technologies for these enhancements could include: vegetation establishment, turf reinforcement mats (TRMs), and localized bank armoring with rock or manufactured geo-grid materials.

Small detention structures will not be constructed as test BMPs. Instead, results from previous studies on potential structure sites conducted by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will be used to identify specific sites based on topography, accessibility, landowner interest, permitting requirements, and general environmental effects. Other pertinent information needed for site selection will be identified in the description and conceptual design activity of this task.

Computer model simulations will be performed instead of field testing to evaluate the relative effectiveness of potential detention structure sites for the reduction of peak flow rates (and sediment delivery) in downstream areas.

Installation of BMPs will involve CRMP landowner and stakeholder participation. Upland revegetation, riparian revegetation, tamarisk eradication, fencing exclusion, and embankment stability enhancement field test installations will be implemented through a coordinated effort by local landowners, BLM staff, independent contractors, NRCS personnel, and MFG staff. Plant and erosion control materials will be obtained locally, as possible, and will be installed using procedures similar to those required for full-scale implementation of the BMPs. Evaluation of potential small detention dam sites will be done by MFG and NRCS engineers.

TASK 4: Monitoring & Task 5: Data Evaluation - Monitoring and evaluation of monitoring data will be the key to assessing the effects of BMP test site implementation and thus will be integral to the success of this project. A description of Tasks 4 and 5 monitoring and evaluation activities is included in the Monitoring section of this proposal.

TASK 6: Management and Action Plan Development - The "Action Plan" for the PSCW will evolve out of the current CRMP plan, the proposed project activities, and concurrent projects. This document will be the final product and will serve as the final report for the proposed project. The plan will be developed by MFG and the CRMP-TAC in the second and third years of the project. The overall objective of this Action Plan will be to provide a working, flexible guidance and conceptual design document for the planning of future watershed actions for runoff management and sediment and selenium source control. The Action Plan will include the following components: 1) characterization of sediment source areas and selenium-source features, including data management and presentation in GIS; 2) BMP descriptions and conceptual designs, including potential sites for small detention structures; 3) results from BMP testing and evaluation, including potentially limiting factors which should be considered in large-scale implementation if selected; 4) field- and watershed-scale effects from various BMP implementation scenarios, based on field data and model simulations; 5) cost estimates for the BMPs; and 6) recommended locations for BMP implementation. On-going work, including tamarisk inventory and eradication (BLM and CSU-Fresno) and the downstream flood flow corridor and selenium management project (BOR), will be incorporated into the PSCW "Action Plan". Maps developed for this project will be presented in hard copy and will also be available in digitized format (GIS) to facilitate the Action Plan's use as a tool for planning future watershed improvement activities.

Location and/or Geographic Boundaries of the Project

The Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed (PSCW) is located in Fresno and San Benito counties. It includes approximately 300 square miles of the Coast Range and the Western San Joaquin Valley. A USGS 1:250,000 scale map of the watershed is attached to this proposal.

Ecological/Biological Benefits

Ecological and Biological Objectives

The primary ecological/biological objective of this proposed project is to improve habitat for waterfowl and aquatic organisms by improving water quality in the San Joaquin River, delta, and bay ecosystems. Improvement in watershed stewardship and management of the PSCW can improve water quality and thus improve habitat for CALFED priority species in the San Joaquin River system and the Delta (CALFED, 1999).

High selenium concentrations in water and sediment impair ecosystem function in the San Joaquin River, the Delta, and the San Francisco Bay ecosystems. While selenium is a necessary trace nutrient, it can be highly toxic to aquatic life at relatively low concentrations. It has been demonstrated that selenium will bioaccumulate in aquatic food webs indicating that dietary exposure to selenium is a significant exposure pathway. The toxic effects of selenium are well documented in birds. Nesting failure and selenium related birth defects in waterfowl at the Kesterson Reservoir in the 1980s highlighted the need to address this contaminant in the Lower San Joaquin Watershed. In order to protect wetland uses the site specific criteria for water delivery channels in the Grasslands area is 2 ug/l. Evidence also exists that selenium can have deleterious effects to aquatic organisms of concern, including anadromous and resident fish. "Only 3.2 ug/g selenium in the diet was sufficient to adversely affect early life stages of chinook salmon under controlled conditions. Salmonids are very sensitive to selenium pollution." (CALFED, Water Quality Program Plan January 1999).

Westside San Joaquin Tributaries, primarily Panoche and Silver Creeks, are known to convey substantial amounts of contaminants including selenium, sediment, and salts to the San Joaquin River, the Delta and the Bay. The Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed is considered to be the principal source of selenium to surface waters in the Grasslands area and the San Joaquin River.

Implementation of a hypothetical revegetation BMP scenario in Lower Silver Creek was modeled and the results showed the predicted sediment yield from the watershed would be reduced by such a project (MFG/WLA, 1998). While this model did not account fully for streambank erosion, the results indicated that upland erosion contributions to the sediment load could be significantly reduced with implementation of certain BMPs. Other suggested BMP scenarios were preliminarily modeled, including the placement of seven small flow reduction (detention) structures in sub-basins of the upper watershed. Model results showed that such a scenario could reduce the peak flood flow in the lower watershed by 23 percent during a major storm (MFG/WLA, 1998). This proposed project will determine the effectiveness of several BMP scenarios for reducing flow and contaminant loading by testing them on the ground and through intensive model simulations. It is expected that monitoring will show that BMP implementation in the upper PSCW will reduce storm flows, reduce sediment yield, and thus reduce contaminant loading to downstream ecosystems.

Implementation of the proposed BMP field test evaluation project within the framework of the continuously evolving P/SC Coordinated Resource Management Plan ensures that it will follow the framework of adaptive management. Conducting this project through the CRMP involves coordination with other concurrent projects in the watershed. The CRMP's method of operating is an excellent example of an ecosystem-based approach, in that watershed-scale issues are addressed

and natural resource management decisions made that fully consider multiple beneficial uses including ecosystem health, water quality, flood control, and economic/agricultural productivity. Demonstrated commitment to the CRMP from numerous local, state and federal agencies, private interests, and the general public combined with project funding to strengthen CRMP involvement ensures the durability of the benefits that BMP testing can provide. The CRMP continuously seeks and receives funding from multiple sources enabling it to build upon its ongoing accomplishments. The CRMP also provides a path for information and support to be disseminated to public and private resource managers in the watershed so that management goals can be coordinated and effectively achieved.

Expected improvement of water quality and subsequent improvement of habitat to CALFED priority species is the primary ecological benefit of this project. Secondary benefits include the improvement of native riparian and native upland habitat and the control of non-native invasive species, such as *tamarisk*, in the PSCW.

Linkages

Over the past four years the CRMP has been taking steps to improve watershed management in the PSCW through the development and implementation of a Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP, 1996). The CRMP recognizes the linkage between erosion in the PSCW and sediment/contaminant loading in the San Joaquin River-Delta/Bay systems and has made managing the upper watershed to reduce flows and contaminant loading one of its primary objectives. The CRMP has taken steps to achieve this objective including securing funding for and implementing a watershed assessment to identify sediment source areas and to identify possible BMPs.

The CRMP recognizes the need and opportunity to link efforts throughout the watershed to achieve more effective resource management. The CRMP proposes to coordinate this project with ongoing work by the BOR to manage flooding and selenium in lower Panoche Creek. The CRMP also has included specific budget items to integrate a project proposed by the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) in order to effectively monitor and evaluate the performance of BMPs for watershed-scale reduction in flows and contaminant loads. This project will link to future ERP actions and goals in the following ways: reduce the concentrations and loadings of contaminants in all aquatic environments in the CALFED region (Strategic Plan Goal 6, Objective 1¹), page 506; develop regional plans to reduce the effects of non-point source contaminants (Strategic Plan Goal 6, Objective 2¹), page 506; reduce contaminants loads in harvested organisms (Strategic Plan Goal 6, Objective 3¹), page 507; halt the introduction of invasive aquatic and terrestrial plants into Central California (Strategic Plan Goal 5, Objective 6¹), page 478; develop focused control efforts on those introduced species where control is most feasible and of greatest benefit (Strategic Plan Goal 5, Objective 9²), page 478 (CALFED, 1999).

System-Wide Ecosystem Benefits

This project would provide system-wide ecological benefits by reducing contaminant loading in downstream flows. Reduction of these loads would reduce the bioavailability of contaminants such as selenium to the entire food chain in the San Joaquin River, delta, and bay ecosystems. This project

would be synergistic with any project that benefits from improved water quality in the Bay/Delta system including most fish and habitat restoration projects. This project demonstrates excellent synergy with the proposed LBNL westside tributary contaminant load forecasting project and the lower Panoche Creek flood control and contaminant management corridor project.

Compatibility of Non-Ecosystem Objectives

Non-ecological benefits include improvement in productivity of land in the upper watershed due to reduced erosion. The economic and social benefits of reduced flooding and sedimentation damage to agricultural land, water conveyance structures, and urban areas in the lower watershed will be substantial. Improvements to water quality will yield non-ecological benefits to all downstream beneficial water uses. This project addresses issues and goals established in the Water Quality Program Plan and the Watershed Program Plan (CALFED, 1999). This project addresses directly the reduction of selenium to the San Joaquin River system and ultimately the Bay-Delta, and will be completed as the result of efforts of a local watershed working group, as defined by the Watershed Work Plan objectives.

Third-Party Benefits

Third party benefactors of this project include landowners on the alluvial fan of Panoche Creek, the residents of Mendota, the Grasslands drainage area, water users downstream of Panoche Creek, local water districts, and the fish and wildlife downstream of Panoche Creek. All of these parties are affected by flooding, sedimentation, and selenium loading from Panoche Creek.

Technical Feasibility and Timing

In addition to upper watershed management there are several other alternatives for reducing selenium loads to the ecosystem including drainage treatment, phytoremediation, selenium marketing, tradable loads, land retirement, drainage reuse, integrated on-farm drainage management, and others. The CRMP recognizes the importance of all of these methods in addressing this complex problem, and believes that some combination of remedies will offer the most viable solution. There is currently a grand opportunity for linking the proposed upper watershed management project in the PSCW with other concurrent projects. The proposed project dovetails synergistically with the LBNL project which will provide real-time forecasting related to contaminant loading to water managers in the San Joaquin Valley. Coordination of the BMP test site monitoring with other projects in the watershed is a key element to this project. The BOR, a key member of the CRMP, is currently evaluating a multi-objective Panoche Creek Corridor project in the lower watershed to address flooding and contaminant loading issues. That project and upper watershed management clearly go hand in hand, and coordination of these elements through the CRMP as part of this project is an excellent opportunity to manage natural resources on a watershed scale.

As with any natural resource management project in California, potential limitations to this proposed project will occur in the event of successive drought years during the project duration. To address this contingency, field information will be collected for input into model simulations of various BMP test conditions to evaluate the effectiveness of the BMPs for the range of applications expected in the PSCW. The proposed budget for storm-event sampling and analysis will not be used if drought occurs. There will be a subsequent decrease in budget needs for other parts of the proposed work if drought occurs. However, we will still obtain information which is usable for evolving the P/SC Coordinated Resource Management Plan.

The proper NEPA, CEQA review as well as other permits will be obtained as necessary for the projects. Currently, the CRMP is developing and completing a stream channel maintenance permit through the California Department of Fish and Game for the portion of Panoche Creek from the Interstate-5 bridge downstream to Belmont Avenue.

The nature of the process for resolving other outstanding implementation issues will be addressed and resolved by the CRMP process. The CRMP has and will continue to seek funding for projects from any additional sources available. Also, the CRMP continually works to develop relationships with the landowners, agencies, legislators, and foundations to develop all necessary and needed cooperation and funding to complete implementation of projects.

Monitoring and Data Collection Methodology

Biological/Ecological Objectives

The primary ecological/biological objective of this proposed project is to improve habitat for waterfowl and aquatic organisms by improving water quality in the San Joaquin River, delta, and bay ecosystems. Improvement in watershed stewardship and management of the PSCW can improve water quality and, thus, improve habitat for CALFED priority species in the San Joaquin River system and the Delta (CALFED, 1999). The purpose of the monitoring component of this project is to determine whether various measures are successful in meeting this objective. An adaptive management approach will be used throughout the project to incorporate monitoring results into the design of future projects.

Monitoring Parameters and Data Collection Approach

Project monitoring will be conducted using the best available monitoring equipment and methods. Citizen monitoring will be used whenever possible, with training and supervision being provided by MFG and CRMP member agencies. BMP monitoring will be coordinated with other monitoring activities in the watershed. The CRMP structure is ideal for this type of cooperation and coordination. Specific monitoring parameters are included in Table 1. Monitoring data will be made available to the LBNL for their real-time forecasting (proposed CALFED) project.

Monitoring is a critical element of this proposed project. The following monitoring parameters will provide information to be used to evaluate the effectiveness of implemented BMPs at test sites: real-time precipitation, stream gaging/flow, and soil moisture (if available from locations potentially developed by LBNL personnel); storm-event sampling; annual stream channel cross-section surveys; vegetation/ground cover measurements; grazing use and intensity; soil movement and erosion estimation/measurement; and integrity, durability, and performance of BMP structures.

Data Evaluation Approach

Monitoring data will be collected and evaluated over a three-year period to determine the feasibility of tested BMPs for application to the PSCW and various sub-basins within the PSCW. Data will be evaluated to assess the performance of tested BMPs, both on a field scale and as effects are observed on the watershed scale. Evaluation activities will include: reviewing the performance of BMPs for runoff reduction and erosion control; development and calibration of a watershed BMP model for assessing the potential effects of BMP implementation on downstream (San Joaquin River) water quality; characterization of watershed hydrology and selenium movement during runoff events; additional characterization of depositional, scour, redistribution, and bank instability areas; and development of field BMP model to evaluate performance of applicable BMPs over the long term. Peer review for the data evaluation process will involve the CRMP member agencies and landowners, the LBNL, and MFG.

Local Involvement

The local involvement in this project is extensive. The Fresno and San Benito County Supervisors have been contacted about this proposed project and all are in support of addressing the continual contamination and flooding problems (see Attachment A for a copy of the letter sent informing them of the project). The Fresno and San Benito County Public Works Departments, the Agriculture Commissioners, the local Bureau of Land Management and Natural Resources Conservation Services offices in San Benito County, the local Department of Water Resources, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bureau of Reclamation, and CalTrans in Fresno County have been notified of the project and all have offered to assist where possible to facilitate conducting the project. Additionally, the city of Mendota has been contacted of the project and are in support of the project.

The landowners in the upper and lower watershed are in high support of this project because they understand that they will continue to lose productivity and income if nothing is done to prevent the flood events and contamination to the alluvial fan. The Westlands Water District, Broadview Water District, Firebaugh Canal Water District, and the Silver Creek Drainage have all been contacted and greatly support this project.

It is planned to continue the following public information activities: mailings to the individual landowners and organizations informing them of the progress of the project; landowner meetings in both the upper and lower watershed; and monthly progress reports at the CRMP meetings. Progress of the project will also be announced through the following media: the quarterly newsletter sent out by the CRMP; the newsletter sent out by Westlands Water District; and written notification to the Fresno and San Benito Counties Cooperative Extension offices. Additionally several outreach workshops will be planned to coordinate educational activities with volunteer restoration and monitoring activities.

Cost

Budget and Schedule

The budget for the proposed project is outlined in Tables 2 and 3, and the three-year schedule is summarized in Table 4. Budget and schedule items are delineated by task according to the narrative provided in the project description. Budgets for the first, second, and third years are \$400,000, \$216,000, and \$232,000, respectively, for a total proposed project budget of \$848,000.

Cost-Sharing

The CRMP has been operating since its inception in 1989 with funding from its member agencies and competitive grants. The CRMP utilizes its funding to support projects that address the Objectives of the Coordinated Resource and Management Plan.

The CRMP received a grant from the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) in the amount of \$96,500 to implement the PSCW Assessment. The BOR has provided \$72,000 to the CRMP over the past two years, and has agreed to provide additional funding for upcoming projects. The US-EPA has provided approximately \$45,000 to the CRMP to date, and continued funding for CRMP coordination and small projects is pending. The NRCS has contributed \$25,000 to the CRMP and has agreed to provide technical in-kind services related to soils, vegetation, biology, monitoring, and engineering. The BLM has agreed to provide in-kind technical services related to invasive species management BMPs and GIS. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has provided staff for the development of documentation and field data collection. This agency has agreed to provide technical assistance related to hydrology. The Firebaugh Canal Water District and the Silver Creek Drainage District have provided funding for small projects in the past, and have agreed to provide heavy equipment and operators for the proposed project. The Westside RCD has contributed money to the CRMP to develop documentation and to prepare funding applications. The Westside RCD has administered all of the money the CRMP has received, with the exception of one grant administered by the City of Mendota.

Applicant Qualifications

The Panoche/Silver Creek CRMP has access to considerable talent and resources in the form of its many member agencies and individuals. The CRMP has chosen to continue its relationship with MFG, the consulting firm which completed the recent PSCW Assessment, due to their experience in the watershed and qualifications to conduct the proposed BMP testing and Action Plan development. This project's utilization of resources at LBNL will add considerable value to the project by linking achievements in the upper watershed to ecological improvements downstream. Brief descriptions of the experiences of key project personnel follows.

Morris A. Martin retired after 32 years with the Soil Conservation Service as the Area Conservationist for the San Joaquin Valley and Eastern California. He has been manager of the WRCD for 9 years and has administered more than 11 state and federal grants totaling \$882,481. He comes to the project with extensive knowledge concerning the historical events in the Panoche/Silver Creek watershed and the San Joaquin Valley. He is a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC), from the Soil and Water Conservation Society and International Erosion Control Association.

Nettie R. Drake, has been the full-time coordinator for the Panoche/Silver Creek CRMP for the past three and half years. During this time, the CRMP has: (1) completed a set of By-laws; (2) established goals for a Plan of Work; (3) obtained a 205(f) grant for the sedimentation study (PSCW Assessment project) completed in November 1998; (4) obtained four grants for the continuous support of a full-time coordinator; (5) initiated on-the-ground projects with landowners for erosion and sediment control programs; (6) developed three Clinic projects through the California State University, Fresno, School of Agricultural Sciences and Technology; (7) obtained funding for the construction and operation for the last two years of a gaging station on Panoche Creek at the Interstate-5 bridge; and (8) maintained a positive public image and support from local, state, and federal agencies and legislators.

Charles F. McCullough, the Chairman of the Panoche/Silver Creek CRMP and a rancher in the upper watershed, has a certificate in Agricultural Engineering. He has lived in the watershed for over forty years, has raised sheep and cattle on the rangeland and farmed in the Panoche Valley. He was elected to a two-year term on the BLM Grazing Advisory Board for the Hollister Resources Area, and three years on the Bakersfield District Advisory Committee encompassing a 35-county area. He has been a member of the CRMP from its inception and has served as chairman for the past two years. He is a member of the San Benito County Land Conservation Committee, and has served 18 years on the San Benito County Fish and Game Commission. He has been extensively involved in the management protocol of the public lands and on private property.

Fred Charles, Ph.D. is a Senior Engineer with MFG. He was the lead investigator and overall project manager for the Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed Assessment (1998) and is intimately familiar with the watershed. He has over nine years of professional experience in environmental consulting related to upland, riparian, and wetland vegetation establishment and habitat restoration; sediment control BMP evaluation and design; hydrology; stormwater hydraulics and control; and soil quality assessment. Dr. Charles has developed and successfully implemented plans for site remediation,

sediment control, and establishment of vegetation in disturbed areas, and he proficiently models hydrologic, hydraulic, and non-point source processes through the use of existing models or by developing computer code to simulate specific unique situations. His Ph.D. research in Agricultural and Biological Engineering included data development and testing of the Water Erosion Prediction Project (WEPP) model for evaluation of field hydrology and sediment transport under varying agricultural practices. He is a registered professional engineer (civil) in California, Colorado, and Idaho. Dr. Charles is also an affiliate faculty member at Colorado State University.

Brendan Annett is a Staff Environmental Scientist with MFG. He has considerable experience with biological monitoring and habitat characterization in wetlands, streams, rivers, lakes, and estuaries. He has worked on projects throughout the United States for university research groups and state natural resource management agencies. He has experience working with coordinated multiple stakeholder watershed planning programs, including the Oregon Coastal Salmon Restoration Initiative. He contributed to the evaluation of sedimentation and best management practices (BMPs) for erosion control in the PSCW Assessment. He has assisted with ecological risk assessment in wetland and terrestrial environments. He is currently assessing environmental information related to natural resource damage assessment claims for a large watershed system in the northwestern U.S. His responsibilities there include evaluating habitat relationships among aquatic species in that watershed. Mr. Annett regularly participates in the Panoche/Silver Creek CRMP and Westside RCD meetings.

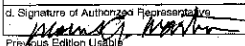
Maria Sonett is a Senior Staff Reclamation/Vegetation Specialist with MFG. She has extensive experience in restoration and revegetation of native plant communities, non-native species management, erosion control, watershed analysis and management, range management, development of BMPs for erosion control and plant community protection, and plant and soil conservation for construction projects. She has developed seeding mixtures and specifications, performed seed sampling tests, written seeding contract specifications, negotiated seeding contracts, worked as field inspector, and acted as chief QA/QC revegetation coordinator/field supervisor on construction projects for public and private clients. She has reviewed performance of small grade control structures, provided design improvement recommendations, and developed small-basin BMPs for erosion control and plant community protection. She has designed and completed native plant restoration/range management projects for lands disturbed by fire, construction, and mining; worked with public and private clients to develop restoration goals and BMPs for sustainable plant community management. Ms. Sonett provided range condition assessment and vegetative community mapping, and proposed BMPs for upland and riparian habitat restoration and sediment management for recent Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed Assessment. She is registered as a Certified Professional in Erosion And Sediment Control (CPESC), by the International Erosion Control Association and the Soil and Water Conservation Society.

References

- CALFED Bay-Delta Program (CALFED), 1999. Revised Water Quality Program Plan. January 1999.
- CALFED, 1999. Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan, Revised Draft, Volume 1. February 1999.
- McCulley, Frick & Gilman, Inc. and William Lettis and Associates, Inc., 1998. Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed Assessment Final Report. September 28, 1998.
- Panoche/Silver Creek Coordinated Resource Management and Planning Group, 1996. The Panoche/Silver Creek Coordinated Resource Management Plan. March 1996

**APPLICATION FOR
FEDERAL ASSISTANCE**

OMB Approval No. 0348-0043

| | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| 1. TYPE OF SUBMISSION: <input type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Construction | | 2. DATE SUBMITTED April 16, 1999 | | Applicant Identifier | |
| 3. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE | | State Application Identifier | | 4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY | |
| 5. APPLICANT INFORMATION Legal Name: Westside Resource Conservation Dist | | Organizational Unit: None applicable | | | |
| Address (give city, county, State, and zip code): 3763 E. Robinson Fresno, CA 93726-5917 | | Name and telephone number of person to be contacted on matters involving this application (give area code): Morris A. Martin, Mgr. (559) 227-2489 | | | |
| 6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): 77-0409494 | | 7. TYPE OF APPLICANT: (enter appropriate letter in box) A. State B. County C. Municipal D. Township E. Interstate F. Intermunicipal G. Special District H. Independent School Dist. I. State Controlled Institution of Higher Learning J. Private University K. Indian Tribe L. Individual M. Profit Organization N. Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | | |
| 8. TYPE OF APPLICATION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision If Revision, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> A. Increase Award B. Decrease Award C. Increase Duration D. Decrease Duration Other (specify): | | 9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY: Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation | | | |
| 10. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER: TITLE: Fresno and San Benito Counties | | 11. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT: Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed Management and Action Plan | | | |
| 12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (Cities, Counties, States, etc.): | | 13. PROPOSED PROJECT | | | |
| 14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF: Cal Dooley (20) and Sam Farr (17) | | 15. ESTIMATED FUNDING: | | | |
| Start Date: 10/99 Ending Date: 09/02 | | a. Applicant: Westside RCD | | | |
| b. Project: Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed Management and Action Plan | | 16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES a. YES. THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR REVIEW ON: DATE _____ b. No. <input type="checkbox"/> PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E. O. 12372 <input type="checkbox"/> OR PROGRAM HAS NOT BEEN SELECTED BY STATE FOR REVIEW | | | |
| a. Federal \$ 848,000 | | 17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If "Yes," attach an explanation. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | | | |
| b. Applicant \$ | | | | | |
| c. State \$ | | | | | |
| d. Local \$ | | | | | |
| e. Other \$ | | | | | |
| f. Program Income \$ | | | | | |
| g. TOTAL \$ 848,000 | | | | | |
| 18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION/PREAPPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT, THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT WILL COMPLY WITH THE ATTACHED ASSURANCES IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED. | | | | | |
| a. Type Name of Authorized Representative Morris A. Martin | | b. Title Manager | | c. Telephone Number (559) 227-2489 | |
| d. Signature of Authorized Representative  | | e. Date Signed 04/15/99 | | | |

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Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

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I-017018

| BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs | | | | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------|
| SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY | | | | | | |
| Grant Program Function or Activity (a) | Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number (b) | Estimated Unobligated Funds | | New or Revised Budget | | |
| | | Federal (c) | Non-Federal (d) | Federal (e) | Non-Federal (f) | Total (g) |
| 1. Task 1 | | \$ | | \$ 172,000 | | \$ 172,000 |
| 2. Task 2 | | | | 40,000 | | 40,000 |
| 3. Task 3 | | | | 180,000 | | 180,000 |
| 4. Task 4 | | | | 320,000 | | 320,000 |
| 5. Totals | | \$ | | \$ Refer to page | \$ 2 of 3 | \$ |
| SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES | | | | | | |
| 6. Object Class Categories | GRANT PROGRAM FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY | | | | Total (g) | |
| | (1) Task 1 | (2) Task 2 | (3) Task 3 | (4) Task 4 | | |
| a. Personnel | \$ 45,900 | \$ 648 | \$ 4,860 | \$ 6,480 | See pg. 2 of 3 | |
| b. Fringe Benefits | | | | | | |
| c. Travel | | | | | | |
| d. Equipment | 2,625 | 150 | 525 | 1,000 | " " | |
| e. Supplies | 0 | 3,440 | 68,400 | 6,900 | " " | |
| f. Contractual | 112,000 | 35,600 | 105,000 | 304,000 | " " | |
| g. Construction - Included in the contractual row. | | | | | | |
| h. Other | | | | | | |
| i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h) | 160,525 | 39,838 | 178,785 | 318,380 | " " | |
| j. Indirect Charges | 11,475 | 162 | 1,215 | 1,620 | " " | |
| k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j) | \$ 172,000 | \$ 40,000 | \$ 180,000 | \$ 320,000 | \$ | |
| 7. Program Income | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ | |

| BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs | | | | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------|
| SECTION A: BUDGET SUMMARY | | | | | | |
| Grant Program Function or Activity (a) | Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number (b) | Estimated Unobligated Funds | | New or Revised Budget | | |
| | | Federal (c) | Non-Federal (d) | Federal (e) | Non-Federal (f) | Total (g) |
| 1. Task 5 | | \$ | | \$ 78,000 | \$ | \$ 78,000 |
| 2. Task 6 | | | | 58,000 | | 58,000 |
| 3. | | | | | | |
| 4. | | | | | | |
| 5. Totals | | \$ | \$ | \$ 848,000 | \$ | \$ 848,000 |
| SECTION B: BUDGET CATEGORIES | | | | | | |
| 6. Object Class Categories | GRANT PROGRAM FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY | | | | Total (5) | |
| | (1) Task 5 | (2) Task 6 | (3) | (4) | | |
| a. Personnel | \$ 1,620 | \$ 1,620 | \$ | \$ | \$ 61,128 | |
| b. Fringe Benefits | | | | | | |
| c. Travel | | | | | | |
| d. Equipment | 300 | 300 | | | 4,900 | |
| e. Supplies | 1,675 | 675 | | | 81,090 | |
| f. Contractual | 74,000 | 55,000 | | | 685,600 | |
| g. Construction - Included in the contractual row. | | | | | | |
| h. Other | | | | | | |
| i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h) | 77,595 | 57,595 | | | 832,718 | |
| j. Indirect Charges | 405 | 405 | | | 15,282 | |
| k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j) | \$ 78,000 | \$ 58,000 | \$ | \$ | \$ 848,000 | |
| 7. Program Income | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ | \$ | \$ 0 | |

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Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

1-017020

1-017020

| SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----------|-------------------|------------|--|
| (a) Grant Program | (b) Applicant | (c) State | (d) Other Sources | (e) TOTALS | |
| 8. None applicable | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| 9. | | | | | |
| 10. | | | | | |
| 11. | | | | | |
| 12. TOTAL (sum of lines 8 - 11) | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | |

| SECTION D - FORECASTED CASH NEEDS | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Total for 1st Year | 1st Quarter | 2nd Quarter | 3rd Quarter | 4th Quarter |
| 13. Federal | \$ 400,000 | \$ 132,000 | \$ 72,000 | \$ 103,000 | \$ 93,000 |
| 14. Non-Federal | | | | | |
| 15. TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14) | 400,000 | 132,000 | 72,000 | 103,000 | 93,000 |

| SECTION E - BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|--|
| (a) Grant Program | FUTURE FUNDING PERIODS (Years) | | | | |
| | (b) First | (c) Second | (d) Third | (e) Fourth | |
| 16. CALFED Planning grant | \$ 400,000 | \$ 216,000 | \$ 232,000 | \$ | |
| 17. | | | | | |
| 18. | | | | | |
| 19. | | | | | |
| 20. TOTAL (sum of lines 16-19) | \$ 400,000 | \$ 216,000 | \$ 232,000 | \$ | |

| SECTION F - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 21. Direct Charges: \$61,128 | 22. Indirect Charges: \$15,282 |
| 23. Remarks: Unclear on requested information required. | |

1-017021

1-017021

ATTACHMENT A
Letters to Inform Local City, Counties and Agencies

Panoche/Silver Creek

Coordinated Resource Management and Planning

*Ranchers and
farmers, local
citizens*

*Broadview Water
District*

*Bureau of Land
Management*

Cal-Trans

*California Department
of Water Resources*

*California Department
of Fish and Game*

City of Mendota

*Cooperative
Extension Services*

*Environmental
Protection Agency*

*Firebaugh Canal
Water District*

*Fresno County
Department of
Public Works*

*Natural Resources
Conservation Services*

*Private Clubs and
Organizations*

San Benito County

*San Benito Resource
Conservation District*

*Silver Creek
Drainage District*

*United State
Geological Survey*

*Westlands Water
District*

*Westside Resource
Conservation District*

April 7, 1999

City of Mendota
Rosemary Ramirez
City Clerk and Administrative Assistant
643 Quince St.
Mendota, CA 93640

Dear Ms Ramirez:

On behalf of the Westside Resource Conservation District and the Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed Coordinated Resource Management and Planning (CRMP) program, I am writing to request the City of Mendota consideration and approval of a letter of support for the CALFED funding application.

The Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed (PSCW) is located in both Fresno and San Benito Counties. The PSCW contributes large amounts of Selenium, by way of erosion, sediment movement and flooding, to the alluvial fan, the city of Mendota, the Mendota Pool and the San Joaquin River. This CALFED application is to provide funding to pilot projects that address this contamination issue. The projects that would be created range from re-vegetation along the creek channel, to the creation of vegetation filtration strips to protect the stream channel from further erosion, to site evaluations of erosion control structures throughout the watershed to control the water flow. These projects will be implemented and monitored on a voluntary basis only, there are many landowners within the watershed that have expressed an interest in participating. The general budget of this grant application is \$500,000 and will be applied to the development and implementation of projects to decrease the erosion, sediment and selenium contamination. There will also be a monitoring program developed to assess the success of the projects and apply adaptive management techniques to the Watershed Action Plan.

The Westside Resource Conservation District and the CRMP have been working together over the past 10 years to address these issues by including both agency and landowners in the project development and decision making. This grant request provides a tremendous opportunity for the CRMP to move towards projects on the ground that would allow for some control over the contamination issue to the Mendota Pool and San Joaquin River. It is critical to gain control over the Selenium contamination issue if there is ever to be a San Francisco Bay-Delta Solution. This letter of support will express the Department's formal support for the grant request and the commitment to clean water for the San Joaquin River.

Sincerely,



Nettie R. Drake, Coordinator
Panoche/Silver Creek CRMP
29415 Ruth Hill Rd.
Squaw Valley, CA 93675
nrdrake@spirulcomm.net
(559) 332-2837

cc: PSC CRMP Steering Committee

Panoche/Silver Creek
Coordinated Resource Management and Planning

March 29, 1999

*Ranchers and
farmers, local
citizens*

*Broadview Water
District*

*Bureau of Land
Management*

Cal-Trans

*California Department
of Water Resources*

*California Department
of Fish and Game*

City of Mendota

*Cooperative
Extension Services*

*Environmental
Protection Agency*

*Firebaugh Canal
Water District*

*Fresno County
Department of
Public Works*

*Natural Resources
Conservation Services*

*Private Clubs and
Organizations*

San Benito County

*San Benito Resource
Conservation District*

*Silver Creek
Drainage District*

*United State
Geological Survey*

*Westlands Water
District*

*Westside Resource
Conservation District*

San Benito County
Board of Supervisors
Richard Scagliotti, Chairman
481 Fourth St.
Hollister, CA 95023

Re: Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed CALFED grant application

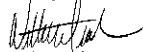
Dear Mr. Scagliotti:

This letter follows the January newsletter sent to you expressing the current projects the Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed Coordinated Resource Management Planning (CRMP) team is working on. To continue in the our work, the CRMP, in conjunction with the Westside Resource Conservation District, is applying for a CALFED grant to develop an upper watershed land management plan, from the confluence of Panoche and Silver Creeks to the top of the Diablo ridge.

I am asking for your and the San Benito County Board of Supervisor's support for this application and project. I will be submitting the application by April 13, 1999, to meet the deadline. This grant would enable landowners and land managers in San Benito County to better manage the natural resources on their property to decrease the amount of erosion along Panoche and Silver Creeks, thus increasing the water quality throughout the watershed as well as the wildlife habitat.

Thank you for your support and interest in this project. If you would please forward a letter of support to myself by April 10, 1999, it would be greatly appreciated. Please do not hesitate to contact me at the below list numbers if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Nettie R. Drake
Coordinator
Panoche/Silver Creek CRMP
29415 Ruth Hill Rd.
Squaw Valley, CA 93675
nrdrake@spiralcomm.net
(559) 332-2837
(559) 332-9992 (fax)

cc: P/SC CRMP Steering Committee

I - 0 1 7 0 2 4

I-017024

Panoche/Silver Creek
Coordinated Resource Management and Planning

March 23, 1999

*Ranchers and
farmers, local
citizens*

*Broadview Water
District*

*Bureau of Land
Management*

Cal-Trans

*California Department
of Water Resources*

*California Department
of Fish and Game*

City of Mendota

*Cooperative
Extension Services*

*Environmental
Protection Agency*

*Firebaugh Canal
Water District*

*Fresno County
Department of
Public Works*

*Natural Resources
Conservation Services*

*Private Clubs and
Organizations*

San Benito County

*San Benito Resource
Conservation District*

*Silver Creek
Drainage District*

*United State
Geological Survey*

*Westlands Water
District*

*Westside Resource
Conservation District*

San Benito County
Public Works Department
Debra Schwarz
3224 Southside Road
Hollister, CA 95023

Re: Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed CALFED grant application

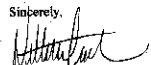
Dear Ms. Schwarz:

This letter follows the January newsletter sent to you expressing the current projects the Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed Coordinated Resource Management Planning (CRMP) team is working on. To continue in our work, the CRMP, in conjunction with the Westside Resource Conservation District, is applying for a CALFED grant to develop an upper watershed land management plan, from the confluence of Panoche and Silver Creeks to the top of the Diablo ridge.

I am asking for your and the San Benito County Board of Supervisor's support for this application and project. I will be submitting the application by April 13, 1999, to meet the deadline. This grant would enable landowners and land managers in San Benito better manage the natural resources on their property to decrease the amount of erosion along Panoche and Silver Creeks, thus increasing the water quality throughout the watershed as well as the wildlife habitat.

Thank you for your support and interest in this project. If you would please forward a letter of support to myself by April 10, 1999, it would be greatly appreciated. Please do not hesitate to contact me at the below list numbers if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Nettie R. Drake
Coordinator
Panoche/Silver Creek CRMP
29415 Ruth Hill Rd.
Squaw Valley, CA 93675
nrdrake@spiralcomm.net
(559) 332-2837
(559) 332-9992 (fax)

cc: PISC CRMP Steering Committee

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I-017025

Panoche/Silver Creek

Coordinated Resource Management and Planning

*Ranchers and
farmers, local
citizens*

*Broadview Water
District*

*Bureau of Land
Management*

Cal-Trans

*California Department
of Water Resources*

*California Department
of Fish and Game*

City of Mendota

*Cooperative
Extension Services*

*Environmental
Protection Agency*

*Firebaugh Canal
Water District*

*Fresno County
Department of
Public Works*

*Natural Resources
Conservation Services*

*Private Clubs and
Organizations*

San Benito County

*San Benito Resource
Conservation District*

*Silver Creek
Drainage District*

*United States
Geological Survey*

*Wetlands Water
District*

*Westside Resource
Conservation District*

April 5, 1999

The Honorable Sharon Levy,
Chairwoman
Fresno County Board of Supervisors
2281 Tulare St., Room 301
Fresno, CA 93711

Dear Supervisor Levy:

On behalf of the Westside Resource Conservation District and the Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed Coordinated Resource Management and Planning (CRMP) program, I am writing to request the Fresno County Board of Supervisors' consideration and approval of a letter of support for the CALFED funding application.

The Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed (PSCW) is located in both Fresno and San Benito Counties. The PSCW contributes large amounts of Selenium, by way of erosion, sediment movement and flooding, to the alluvial fan, the city of Mendota, the Mendota Pool and the San Joaquin River. This CALFED application is to provide funding to pilot projects that address this contamination issue. The projects that would be created range from re-vegetation along the creek channel, to the creation of vegetation filtration strips to protect the stream channel from further erosion, to site evaluations of erosion control structures throughout the watershed to control the water flow. The general budget of this grant application is \$500,000 and will be applied to the development and implementation of projects to decrease the erosion, sediment and selenium contamination. There will also be a monitoring program developed to assess the success of the projects and apply adaptive management techniques to the Watershed Action Plan.

The Westside Resource Conservation District and the CRMP have been working together over the past 10 years to address these issues by including both agency and landowners in the project development and decision making. This grant request provides a tremendous opportunity for the CRMP to move towards projects on the ground that would allow for some control over the contamination issue to the Mendota Pool and San Joaquin River. It is critical to gain control over the Selenium contamination issue if there is ever to be a San Francisco Bay-Delta Solution. This resolution and letter of support will express the County's formal support for the grant request and the commitment to clean water for the San Joaquin River.

Honorable Supervisor Levy

Page 2

April 7, 1999

For more information, I have enclosed the outline of the CALFED application and more information about the history of the CRMP. Thank you for your consideration to this resolution and letter of support.

Sincerely,



Nettie R. Drake,
Coordinator
Panoche/Silver Creek CRMP
29415 Ruth Hill Rd.
Squaw Valley, CA 93675
nrdrake@spiralcomm.net
(559) 332-2837

cc: P/SC CRMP Steering Committee

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I-017027

Panoche/Silver Creek

Coordinated Resource Management and Planning

*Ranchers and
farmers, local
citizens*

April 7, 1999

*Broadview Water
District*

Fresno County
Public Works Department
Carolina Jimenez-Hogg, Director
2220 Tulare St., 7th Floor
Fresno, CA 93721

*Bureau of Land
Management*

Cal-Trans

*California Department
of Water Resources*

Dear Ms Jimenez-Hogg:

*California Department
of Fish and Game*

On behalf of the Westside Resource Conservation District and the Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed Coordinated Resource Management and Planning (CRMP) program, I am writing to request the Fresno County Public Works Department consideration and approval of a letter of support for the CALFED funding application.

City of Mendota

*Cooperative
Extension Services*

The Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed (PSCW) is located in both Fresno and San Benito Counties. The PSCW contributes large amounts of Selenium, by way of erosion, sediment movement and flooding, to the alluvial fan, the city of Mendota, the Mendota Pool and the San Joaquin River. This CALFED application is to provide funding to pilot projects that address this contamination issue. The projects that would be created range from re-vegetation along the creek channel, to the creation of vegetation filtration strips to protect the stream channel from further erosion, to site evaluations of erosion control structures throughout the watershed to control the water flow. These projects will be implemented and monitored on a voluntary basis only, there are many landowners within the watershed that have expressed an interest in participating. The general budget of this grant application is \$500,000 and will be applied to the development and implementation of projects to decrease the erosion, sediment and selenium contamination. There will also be a monitoring program developed to assess the success of the projects and apply adaptive management techniques to the Watershed Action Plan.

*Environmental
Protection Agency*

*Firebaugh Canal
Water District*

*Fresno County
Department of
Public Works*

*Natural Resources
Conservation Services*

*Private Clubs and
Organizations*

San Benito County

*San Benito Resource
Conservation District*

The Westside Resource Conservation District and the CRMP have been working together over the past 10 years to address these issues by including both agency and landowners in the project development and decision making. This grant request provides a tremendous opportunity for the CRMP to move towards projects on the ground that would allow for some control over the contamination issue to the Mendota Pool and San Joaquin River. It is critical to gain control over the Selenium contamination issue if there is ever to be a San Francisco Bay-Delta Solution. This letter of support will express the Department's formal support for the grant request and the commitment to clean water for the San Joaquin River.

*Silver Creek
Drainage District*

*United State
Geological Survey*

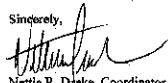
*Westlands Water
District*

*Westside Resource
Conservation District*

Ms. Carolina Jimenez-Hogg
Page 2
April 7, 1999

For more information, I have enclosed the outline of the CALFED application and more information about the history of the CRMP. Thank you for your consideration to this letter of support.

Sincerely,



Nettie R. Drake, Coordinator
Panoche/Silver Creek CRMP
29415 Ruth Hill Rd.
Squaw Valley, CA 93675
nrdrake@spiralcon.com.net
(559) 332-2837

cc: P/SC CRMP Steering Committee

ATTACHMENT B

Letters of Support



April 9, 1999

Westside Resource Conservation District
Morris A. Martin, Manager
3763 E. Robinson
Fresno, CA 93726-5917

RE: Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed CALFED grant letter
of support


Dear Mr. Martin:

This letter is to follow up a request from the Panoche/
Silver Creek Coordinated Resource Management and Planning
group and yourself for a letter of support for the CALFED
grant application for the Panoche/Silver Creek Upper
Watershed Plan.

We understand that this project will further evaluate the
feasibility and implementation of projects as identified
in the Sedimentation Study recently completed in the
watershed to address the erosion and sedimentation concerns
within the watershed. Additionally, this project will
address the Selenium and other contaminant loading to the
San Joaquin River and the Bay-Delta ecosystem.

We support this effort and look forward to learning more
in the future about the success of the project.

Sincerely,


Ed Wadzell
Panoche Ginning Company

Continental Ginning Systems

I - 0 1 7 0 3 1

I-017031

Blackburn Farming Co.

43940 North Avenue, Firebaugh, Ca 93622 (559) 659-3753 Fax (559) 659-3147

April 6, 1999

Westside Resource Conservation District
Morris A. Martin, Manager
3763 E. Robinson
Fresno, Ca 93726-5917

Re: Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed CALFED grant letter of support

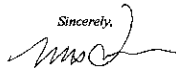
Dear Mr. Martin:

This letter is to follow up a request from the Panoche/Silver Creek Coordinated Resource Management and Planning Group and yourself for a letter of support for the CALFED grant application for the Panoche/Silver Creek Upper Watershed Plan.

We understand that this project will further evaluate the feasibility and implementation of projects as identified in the Sedimentation Study recently completed in the watershed to address the erosion and sedimentation concerns within the watershed. Additionally, this project will address the Selenium and other contaminant loading to the San Joaquin River and the Bay-Delta ecosystem.

We support this effort and look forward to learning more in the future about the success of the project.

Sincerely,



Mark H. Turnon
Blackburn Farming Company, Inc.



Vaquero Farms, Inc.

LOUIS B. SOUZA
President

6 APRIL 1999

WESTSIDE RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MORRIS A. MARTIN, MANAGER
3763 E. ROBINSON
FRESNO, CA 93726-5917

RE: PANOCH/SILVER CREEK WATERSHED CAL-FED GRANT LETTER OF SUPPORT

DEAR MR. MARTIN:

THIS LETTER IS TO FOLLOW UP A REQUEST FROM THE PANOCH/SILVER CREEK COORDINATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING GROUP AND YOURSELF FOR A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE CALFED GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE PANOCH/SILVER CREEK UPPER WATERSHED PLAN.

WE UNDERSTAND THAT THIS PROJECT WILL FURTHER EVALUATE THE FEASIBILITY AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS AS IDENTIFIED IN THE SEDIMENTATION STUDY RECENTLY COMPLETED IN THE WATERSHED TO ADDRESS THE EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION CONCERNS WITHIN THE WATERSHED. ADDITIONALLY, THIS PROJECT WILL ADDRESS THE SELENIUM AND OTHER CONTAMINANT LOADING TO THE SAN JOAQUIN RIVER AND THE BAY DELTA ECOSYSTEM.

WE SUPPORT THIS EFFORT AND LOOK FORWARD TO LEARNING MORE IN THE FUTURE ABOUT THE SUCCESS OF THE PROJECT.

SINCERELY,

LOUIS B. SOUZA

2800 W. March Lane, Suite 330
Stockton, CA 95219

(209) 476-0002
Fax: (209) 476-1702

I - 0 1 7 0 3 3

I-017033



CITY of MENDOTA

April 9, 1999

Morris A. Martin, Manager
Westside Resource Conservation District
3763 E. Robinson
Fresno, Ca. 93726-5917

RE: Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed CALFED Grant Letter of Support

Dear Mr. Martin:

On behalf of the City Council of the City of Mendota, I am writing this letter of support for your CALFED Grant Application for the Panoche/Silver Creek Upper Watershed Plan.

We understand that this project will further evaluate the feasibility and implementation of projects as identified in the Sedimentation Study recently completed in the watershed to address the erosion and sedimentation concerns within the watershed. Additionally, we have been informed that this project will address the Selenium and other contaminant loading to the San Joaquin River and the Bay-Delta ecosystem.

We support this effort and look forward to learning more in the future about the success of the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bruce Barnes".

Bruce Barnes,
Interim City Manager

cc: Mayor Rasmussen & Council members
File

643 QUINCE STREET • MENDOTA, CALIFORNIA 93640 • 559-655-3291 • FAX 559-655-4064
E-mail: mendota@thegrid.net

I - 0 1 7 0 3 4

I-017034



Sharon Levy
Board of Supervisors

April 14, 1999

Mr. Lester Snow, Director
CALFED Bay Delta Program
1418 8th Street, Suite 165
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed CALFED Grant Application

Dear Mr. Snow:

On April 13, 1999 the Fresno County Board of Supervisors took action to support the CALFED grant application for the Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed Plan.

According to information provided by the Westside Resource Conservation District, the Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed (PSCW) located in the counties of Fresno and San Benito contributes large amounts of selenium by way of erosion, sediment movement and flooding to the alluvial fan, the City of Mendota, the Mendota Pool and the San Joaquin River. This CALFED grant application is requesting funds for pilot projects that address this contamination issue. The projects that would be created include re-vegetation along the creek channel, the creation of vegetation filtration strips to protect the stream channel from further erosion and site evaluations of erosion control structures throughout the watershed to control the water flow. This project provides a tremendous opportunity for the CRMP to pursue projects that will allow for some control over the contamination affecting the Mendota Pool and San Joaquin River.

This letter expresses the County's formal support for the grant application submitted by the Westside Resource Conservation District and the Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed Coordinated Resource Management and Planning Program and commends these organizations for their commitments to clean water for the San Joaquin River.

Sincerely,

Sharon Levy, Chairman
Fresno County Board of Supervisors

G:\OXP2445\BUSHARDN SUPPORT\LTR

cc: Nettie R. Drake, Coordinator - Panoche/Silver Creek CRMP
Morris A. Martin, Manager - Westside Resource Conservation District



COUNTY OF SAN BENITO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

481 FOURTH STREET, HOLLISTER, CALIFORNIA 95023-3840

(831) 636-4000

FAX (831) 636-4010

RICHARD V. SCAGLIOTTI
DISTRICT 1

RICHARD B. PLACE
DISTRICT 2

RITA M. BOWLING
DISTRICT 3

RONALD A. RODRIGUES
DISTRICT 4

BOB CRUZ
DISTRICT 5

April 7, 1999

Nettie R. Drake
Coordinator
Panoche/Silver Creek CRMP
29415 Ruth Hill Road
Squaw Valley, CA 93675

Dear Ms. Drake:

At the April 6, 1999 San Benito County Board of Supervisor Meeting the board unanimously voted to support your application for a CALFED grant to develop an upper watershed land management plan, from the confluence of Panoche and Silver Creeks to the top of the Diablo ridge. We commend the work done by the Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed Coordinated Resource Management Planning team.

Thank you for your efforts which will enable landowners in San Benito County to better manage the natural resources on their property to decrease the amount of erosion along Panoche and Silver Creeks.

Sincerely,

Richard V. Scagliotti
by: Linda Chumfrell, Deputy Clerk

Richard V. Scagliotti, Chairman
San Benito County Board of Supervisors

cc: Charles McCullough
rs/lc
correspo/drake.doc.



COUNTY OF SAN BENITO

3224 SOUTHSIDE ROAD
HOLLISTER, CA 95023-9174
831-637-5313 • Fax 831-637-9015

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
BUILDING DEPARTMENT

April 8, 1998

Westside Resource Conservation District
Morris A. Martin, Manager
3763 E. Robinson
Fresno, CA 93726-5917

Re: Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed CALFED grant letter of support

Dear Mr. Martin:

This letter is to follow up a request from the Panoche/Silver Creek Coordinated Resource Management and Planning group and yourself for a letter of support for the CALFED grant application for the Panoche/Silver Creek Upper Watershed Plan.

We understand that this project will further evaluate the feasibility and possibility for implementation of projects addressing erosion and sedimentation concerns within the watershed. These concerns were identified in the recently completed Sedimentation Study. Additionally, this project will address Selenium and other contaminant loading (Mercury?) to the San Joaquin River and the Bay-Delta ecosystem.

We support this effort and look forward to learning more in the future about the outcome of the project.

Sincerely,

Robb Mendiola
Director of Planning
County of San Benito

FAXED
4/9/99

I - 0 1 7 0 3 7

I-017037

CALVIN M. DOOLEY
20TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

WASHINGTON OFFICE
1201 LYNDENBUSH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20518-0020
(202) 633-0001

CALIFORNIA OFFICE
224 WEST LAFAYETTE SQUARE
HAYWARD, CA 94541
(925) 546-8777
(925) 464-4264



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

April 15, 1999

AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
LIVESTOCK AND FISH/POULTRY
RISK MANAGEMENT, RESEARCH
AND SPECIALTY CROPS
RESOURCES COMMITTEE
WATER AND POWER RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL
ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES

Mr. Morris A. Martin
Manager
Wentzside Resource Conservation District
3873 E. Robinson
Fresno, California 93726-5917

Dear Morris:

Re: Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed CALFED Grant

This letter is in follow up to your request and also the request of the Panoche/Silver Creek Coordinated Resource Management and Planning Group for a letter of support for the CALFED grant application for the Panoche/Silver Creek Upper Watershed Plan.

It is my understanding that this project will further evaluate the feasibility and implementation of the projects identified in the Sedimentation Study recently completed to address the erosion and sedimentation concerns within the watershed. Additionally, this project will address the selenium and other contaminants to the San Joaquin River and the Bay-Delta eco-system.

I support this effort and look forward to learning more in the future about the success of the project.

Sincerely,

Cal Dooley
CALVIN DOOLEY
Member of Congress

CD:cl

Printed on Recycled Paper

1 - 0 1 7 0 3 8

I-017038

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 3036
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 445-5843
FAX: (916) 445-6007

OFFICE OFFICE
701 OCEAN STREET
PACIFIC CITY, CA 90660
(916) 464-3109
FAX: (916) 425-5124

DISTRICT OFFICE
JOHN S. HUBBET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95801
(916) 755-6386
FAX: (916) 773-6389

California State Senate

SENATOR
BRUCE MCPHERSON
FIFTEENTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT



STANDING COMMITTEES
EDUCATION, VICE CHAIR
APPROPRIATIONS
CRIMINAL PROCEDURE
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
REVENUE & TAXATION

April 8, 1999

The Honorable Richard Polanco
Chairman, Senate Budget Subcommittee 4
State Capitol, Room 313
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Polanco:

I am writing in support of a budget request item being presented by Panoche/Silver Creek Coordinated Resource Management and Planning (CRMP).

The funds appropriated for this item would be used by CRMP to develop an upper watershed land management plan, from the convergence of Panoche and Silver Creeks to the top of the Diablo ridge. The landowners and land managers in San Benito County require a development plan in order to better manage the natural resources on their property to decrease the amount of erosion along Panoche and Silver Creeks. Additionally, the plan will increase the water quality throughout the watershed as well as the wildlife habitat.

The CRMP is a worthwhile plan and very useful to the residents of San Benito County. As such, I encourage the support of this item for approval by my colleagues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bruce".

Bruce McPherson
State Senator, District 15

I - 0 1 7 0 3 9

I-017039

STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 445-4667

2000 MCDONALD HALL
SUITE 2018
FRESNO, CA 93721
(559) 264-3079

501 TOWERS WAY
SUITE 202
RAHWORTH, D. CA 95009
(925) 323-0442

California State Senate

SENATOR
JIM COSTA
SIXTEENTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
BARNARD
COMMITTEE ON:
AGRICULTURE & WATER
RESOURCES

MEMBER
FINANCE INVESTMENT &
INTERNATIONAL TRADE
HOUSING & COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
TRANSPORTATION
CALIFORNIA WORLD
TRADE COMMISSION

April 5, 1999

Mr. Morris A. Martin
Manager, Westside Resource Conservation District
3763 East Robinson
Fresno, California 93726-5917

Dear Mr. Martin:


Please accept this letter indicating my support of a \$500,000 CALFED grant proposal put forth by the Panoche/Silver Creek Coordinated Resource Management Project (CRMP).

The Panoche/Silver Creek CRMP has done extensive research in conjunction with the McCulley, Frick, Gillman Inc. engineering firm, and recently finished a Sedimentation Study outlining the sources of erosion and sedimentation. The CALFED grant would be used to fund evaluations of projects designed to alleviate the erosion dilemma and excess Selenium and other contaminant loading into the San Joaquin River and Bay-Delta ecosystems.

It is my hope that you give this application thoughtful consideration. The Panoche/Silver Creek CRMP has worked with me and my office on possible solutions to the Westside's reoccurring flood problems. It is my belief that they are a productive and thoughtful organization dedicated to meeting the needs of citizens and land owners in the surrounding area.

As always, if you have any questions or if I can be of assistance, please feel free to contact me at my office.

Sincerely,


JIM COSTA
Member of the Senate
Sixteenth District

JC:klc

I - 0 1 7 0 4 0

I-017040

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

1352 WEST OLIVE AVENUE
P. O. BOX 12616
FRESNO, CA 93778-2616
TDD (559) 498-4068
OFFICE (559) 445-5904
FAX (559) 445-6377



April 9, 1999

Westside Resource Conservation District
Morris A. Martin, Manager
3763 E. Robinson
Fresno, CA 93726-5917

Dear Mr. Martin:

This letter is in response to a request from the Panoche/Silver Creek Coordinated Resource Management and Planning group (CRMP) for a letter of support for the CALFED grant application for the Panoche/Silver Creek Upper Watershed Plan.

We understand that this CALFED application is to provide funding for pilot projects that address contamination, erosion, and sediment issues prevalent in the Panoche/Silver Creek watershed. The funds from this grant application will be applied to the development and implementation of projects to decrease erosion, sediment and selenium contamination. A monitoring program is to be developed to assess the success of the projects and apply adaptive management techniques to the Watershed Action Plan.

We support this effort and look forward to the success of the project.

Sincerely,


BART BOHN
District Director
District 6



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Hollister Resource Area
20 Hamilton Court
Hollister, California 95023-2535

In Reply 7000
Refer To: CA-19.36

Westside Resource Conservation District
Morris A. Martin, Manager
3763 E. Robinson
Fresno, CA 93726-5917

Dear Mr. Martin:

This letter is to follow up on a request from the Panoche/Silver Creek Coordinated Resource Management and Planning group and yourself for a letter of support for the CALFED grant application for the development of a Panoche/Silver Creek Upper Watershed Plan.

We understand that this project will further evaluate the feasibility and implementation of projects as identified in the Sedimentation Study recently completed in the watershed to address the erosion and sedimentation concerns in the watershed.

Thank you for informing us of this project and we look forward to learning more in the future about the success of the project.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Beehler
Field Office Manager

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

SAN JOAQUIN DISTRICT
9374 EAST SHIELDS AVENUE
FRESNO, CA 93726-5913



April 6, 1999

Mr. Morris A. Martin, Manager
Westside Resource Conservation
District
3763 East Robinson
Fresno, California 93726-5917


Dear Mr. Martin:

This letter follows a request from the Panoche/Silver Creek Coordinated Resource Management and Planning group and yourself for a letter of support for the CALFED grant application for the Panoche/Silver Creek Upper Watershed Plan.

We understand that this project will further evaluate the feasibility and support implementation of projects identified in the recently completed study that addressed erosion and sedimentation concerns in the watershed. Additionally, this project should lead to a reduction of selenium and other contaminant loadings in the San Joaquin River and the Bay-Delta ecosystem. Because we believe that these benefits will be significant, we would like to express our support for your grant application.

Thank you for informing us of this project. We look forward to future updates.

Sincerely,


Louis A. Beck, Chief
San Joaquin District

cc: Mrs. Nettie Drake
29415 Ruth Hill Road
Squaw Valley, California 93675

I - 0 1 7 0 4 3

I-017043



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
South-Central California Area Office
2666 N. Grove Industrial Drive
Suite 106
Fresno, California 93727-1551



IN REPLY
REFER TO:

SCC-111
ADM-13.00

APR 9 1999

Westside Resource Conservation District
Morris A. Martin, Manager
3763 E. Robinson
Fresno, California 93726-5917

Subject: Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed CALFED Grant Letter of Support

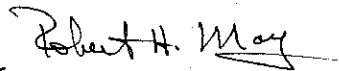
Dear Mr. Martin:

This letter is to follow up a request from the Panoche/Silver Creek Coordinated Resource Management and Planning group and yourself for a letter of support for the CALFED grant application for the Panoche/Silver Creek Upper Watershed Plan.

We understand that this project will further evaluate the feasibility and implementation of projects as identified in the Sedimentation Study recently completed in the watershed to address the erosion and sedimentation concerns within the watershed. Additionally, this project will address the Selenium and other contaminant loading to the San Joaquin River and the Bay-Delta ecosystem.

We support this effort and look forward to learning more in the future about the success of the project. If you have any questions please call me at (559) 487-5286 or for the hearing impaired (TDD) at (559) 487-5933.

Sincerely,


for William H. Luce, Jr.
Area Manager
South-Central California Area Office

1 - 0 1 7 0 4 4

I-017044



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

4625 W. Jennifer, Suite 125
Fresno, CA 93722
(209) 276 - 7494
(209) 276 - 1791 FAX

Date: April 12, 1999

Mr. Morris A. Martin
Westside Resource Conservation District
3763 E. Robinson
Fresno, CA 93726-5917

RE: CALFED Grant Letter of Support

Dear Mr. Martin,

We are in support of the Panocho/Silver Creek Coordinated Resource Management Planning Group (CRMP) CALFED grant application.

The Panocho/Silver Creek CRMP has been working to reduce the erosion and sedimentation within the watershed. Selenium and other contaminants from this watershed impact the San Joaquin River and the Bay Delta ecosystem. In September of 1998, the Panocho/Silver Creek Watershed Assessment Report was completed.

A CALFED grant is needed to further the feasibility and implementation of Best Management Practices and projects identified in the above report.

We support the P/SC CRMP efforts to obtain a CALFED grant and look forward to working with you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Frank Menezes
Frank Menezes
District Conservationist

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA Office of Communications at (202) 746-9981 (voice) or (202) 746-9988 (TDD). To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20508, or call (202) 720-7327 (voice) or (202) 720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

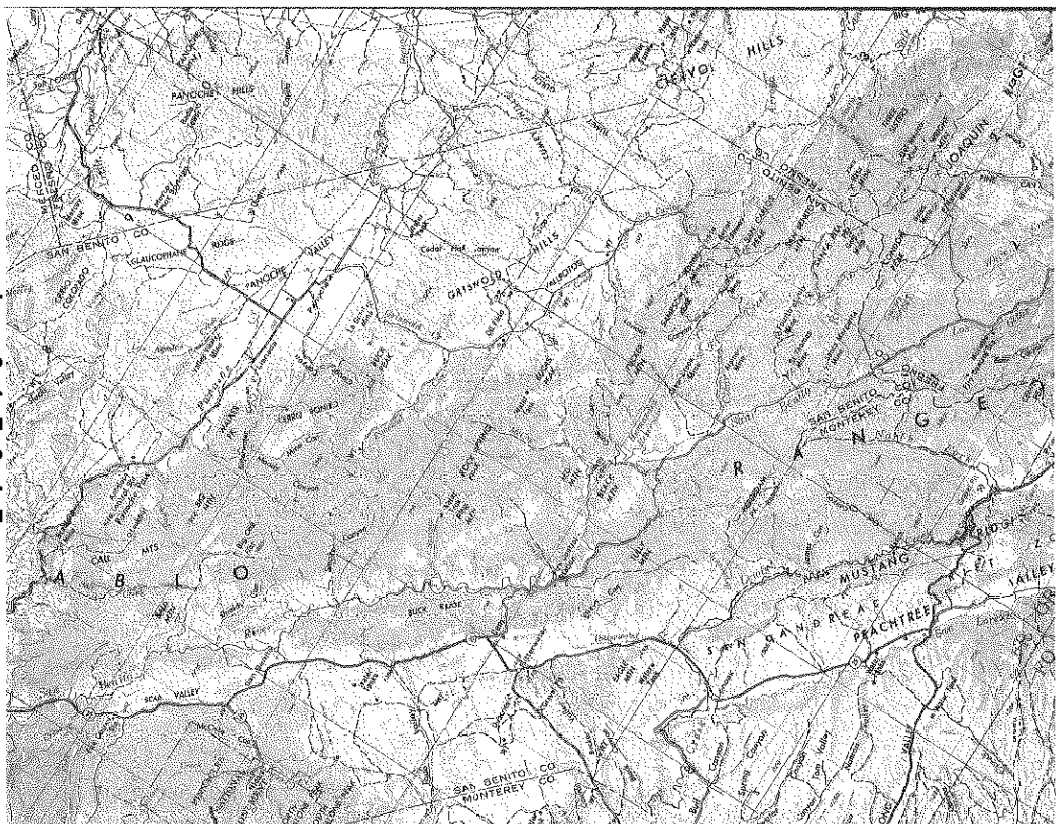
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I-017045

ATTACHMENT C

Maps

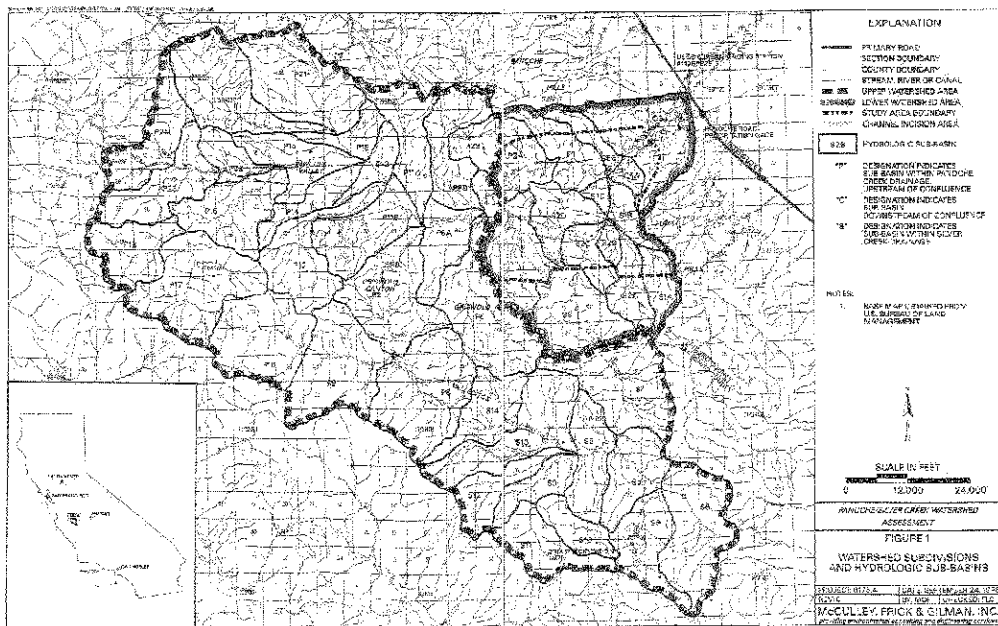
I-017047



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I-017049



I-017049

ATTACHMENT D

Tables

TABLE 1. MONITORING AND DATA COLLECTION INFORMATION

| Hypothesis/Question to be Evaluated | Monitoring Parameter(s) and Data Collection Approach | Data Evaluation Approach | Comments/Data Priority |
|---|--|--|--|
| How substantial are the contributions of sediment and selenium from the Panoche/Silver Creek confluence area and Silver Creek Drainage during rainfall/runoff events of various depths, durations, and intensities? | <p>Continuous: Real-time precipitation, stream gaging/flow, and soil moisture readings at telemetered sites</p> <p>Two to three events per year: Actual storm-event sediment and selenium sampling of streamflow</p> | Characterization of watershed hydrology and selenium movement during runoff events through watershed model simulations along with sediment and selenium loading calculations for potential source areas and the watershed as a whole. | High priority data to provide actual data for definitive watershed evaluation of sediment and selenium runoff-event sources, as monitored in streamflow at selected upper watershed locations. |
| To what extent is the Panoche/Silver Creek confluence area stream channel, and associated terraces, a large on-going source of sediment and (possibly) selenium? | <p>Annually: Stream channel cross-section surveys, along with a limited amount of selenium source sampling for soils in areas highly vulnerable to erosion</p> | Additional on-going characterization of depositional, scour, redistribution, and bank instability areas to determine areas of largest sediment and selenium sources in the erodible stream channel/bank areas. | Moderate to high priority data for additional characterization of potential sediment and selenium source areas for the potential for contribution to long-term stream loading. |
| How effective are a variety of management BMPs, in various settings of the PSCW, for reduction of runoff and contaminant loading locally and in the San Joaquin River system? | <p>Two to three times per year: Vegetation/ground percent cover transect measurements; grazing use and intensity field reviews; soil movement and erosion estimation/ measurement; and integrity, durability, and performance of BMP structures visual and photo point observations</p> | Review of the performance of BMPs for maintenance of acceptable landscape conditions, runoff reduction, and erosion control. Application of a field BMP model to evaluate performance of applicable BMPs over the long term. Also, development of a watershed BMP model for assessing the potential effects of BMP implementation on downstream (San Joaquin River) water quality. | High priority data for evaluation of BMP performance and development of the Watershed Action Plan. |

TABLE 2. TOTAL BUDGET

| Task | Direct Labor Hours | Direct Salary and Benefits | Service Contracts | Material and Acquisition Costs | Misc. and other Direct Costs | Overhead and Indirect Costs | Total Budget |
|--------|--------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Task 1 | 920 | \$45,900 | \$112,000 | \$0 | \$2,625 | \$11,475 | \$172,000 |
| Task 2 | 16 | \$648 | \$35,600 | \$3,440 | \$150 | \$162 | \$40,000 |
| Task 3 | 100 | \$4,860 | \$105,000 | \$68,400 | \$525 | \$1,215 | \$180,000 |
| Task 4 | 130 | \$6,480 | \$304,000 | \$6,900 | \$1,000 | \$1,620 | \$320,000 |
| Task 5 | 32 | \$1,620 | \$74,000 | \$1,675 | \$300 | \$405 | \$78,000 |
| Task 6 | 32 | \$1,620 | \$55,000 | \$675 | \$300 | \$405 | \$58,000 |

TABLE 3. QUARTERLY BUDGET

| Task | Quarterly Budget | Quarterly Budget | Quarterly Budget | Quarterly Budget | Total Budget |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| YEAR 1 | Oct-Dec99 | Jan-Mar00 | Apr-Jun00 | Jul-Sep00 | |
| Task 1 | \$17,000 | \$17,000 | \$13,000 | \$13,000 | \$60,000 |
| Task 2 | \$40,000 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$40,000 |
| Task 3 | \$55,000 | \$40,000 | \$50,000 | \$35,000 | \$180,000 |
| Task 4 | \$30,000 | \$15,000 | \$40,000 | \$45,000 | \$120,000 |
| Task 5 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Task 6 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total | \$132,000 | \$72,000 | \$103,000 | \$93,000 | \$400,000 |
| YEAR 2 | Oct-Dec00 | Jan-Mar01 | Apr-Jun01 | Jul-Sep01 | |
| Task 1 | \$15,000 | \$15,000 | \$13,000 | \$13,000 | \$56,000 |
| Task 2 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Task 3 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Task 4 | \$0 | \$15,000 | \$40,000 | \$45,000 | \$100,000 |
| Task 5 | \$7,600 | \$15,700 | \$15,700 | \$0 | \$39,000 |
| Task 6 | \$0 | \$0 | \$10,500 | \$10,500 | \$21,000 |
| Total | \$22,600 | \$45,700 | \$79,200 | \$68,500 | \$216,000 |
| YEAR 3 | Oct-Dec01 | Jan-Mar02 | Apr-Jun02 | Jul-Sep02 | |
| Task 1 | \$15,000 | \$15,000 | \$13,000 | \$13,000 | \$56,000 |
| Task 2 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Task 3 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Task 4 | \$0 | \$15,000 | \$40,000 | \$45,000 | \$100,000 |
| Task 5 | \$7,600 | \$15,700 | \$15,700 | \$0 | \$39,000 |
| Task 6 | \$5,500 | \$5,500 | \$10,500 | \$15,500 | \$37,000 |
| Total | \$28,100 | \$51,200 | \$79,200 | \$73,500 | \$232,000 |

Panoche/Silver Creek Watershed Management and Action Plan
CALFED Application, April 1999

TABLE 4. SCHEDULE

| Task | Task Description | Activity | Start Date | Completion Date |
|--------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Task 1 | Project management | Project management | Oct99 | Sep02 |
| Task 2 | Program startup | Startup | Oct99 | Dec99 |
| Task 3 | BMP setup | Conceptual design | Oct99 | Mar00 |
| | | Test area selection | Oct99 | Sep00 |
| | | BMP test installation | Dec99 | Sep00 |
| Task 4 | Monitoring | Precip gauge rehab | Oct99 | Nov99 |
| | | BMP modeling | Jan00 | Sep01 |
| | | Storm event sampling - yr 1 | Jan00 | Apr00 |
| | | Storm event sampling - yr 2 | Jan01 | Apr01 |
| | | Storm event sampling - yr 3 | Jan02 | Apr02 |
| | | Channel measurements | May00 | Aug02 |
| | | BMP performance | Mar00 | Jun02 |
| Task 5 | Data evaluation | Data evaluation | Oct00 | Jun02 |
| Task 6 | Action plan development | Action plan development | Apr01 | Sep02 |